

# LABOR CLARION

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## Governor Olson Hints Docks May Be Operated By State Government

Waterfront disputes which have tied up San Francisco's water-borne commerce for three weeks prompted Governor Olson to announce last Monday that he was contemplating state operation of the Port of San Francisco pending settlement of the controversies.

At the same time the governor appointed a five-man commission of "outstanding citizens" to represent the state as observers in negotiations between employers and waterfront unions.

### Asks That Observers "Sit In"

The employers and Ship Clerks' Union were asked to permit the commission to sit in at the negotiations as observers.

Governor Olson also emphasized the hope that "nothing done by the state government shall embarrass or weaken the mediation efforts of the United States Maritime Labor Board and its Pacific Coast representative, Mr. Guerts, who has, in fact, assured me that his board will welcome the co-operation of the state."

On the commission appointed by Olson in an effort to get at the "underlying causes" of the "recurring waterfront disputes" were:

Joseph F. Marias, chairman of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, chairman; Dr. R. D. Calkins, professor of economics at the University of California; George Sehlmeyer of the California State Grange; O. K. Cushing, San Francisco attorney, and Paul C. Smith, general manager of the San Francisco "Chronicle."

### Harry Likes the Idea

Harry Bridges wired Governor Olson in part as follows:

"In regard to possibility of docks being operated, I would be only too willing to advise our affiliated unions concerned that state government under your administration could not help but operate docks to greater advantage to shippers and with less trouble than present shipowning interests operate them."

### DIAMOND WORKERS STRIKE

The New York Diamond Workers' Protective Union of America, American Federation of Labor affiliate, called a strike on November 20 for hourly and piece-work wage increases ranging from 10 to 25 per cent. Two hundred and fifty cutters, polishers and sawers stopped work.

### "Strip-Tease" Show Accusation Involved in Labor Board Charges

The Clover York Coal Company of Harlan County, Kentucky, has filed a libel suit against the National Labor Relations Board in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Cincinnati charging the board unjustly accused the concern of discouraging union organization by sponsoring "strip-tease" shows for miners.

Judge Charles C. Simmons took the case under advisement after Cleon K. Calvert, coal company

attorney, charged the N.L.R.B. had exceeded its powers by accusing the concern of staging the shows to divert miners from attending union meetings.

Board attorneys also were ordered to file their brief with the court.

### MONEY FOR BROWDER DEFENSE

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn said in New York last week that the Communist party has raised \$100,000 to defend Earl Browder, party general secretary, as he pleaded not guilty to a second indictment charging him with passport irregularities. Miss Flynn, as secretary of the "Browder Defense Committee," put up \$7500 bail when Browder appeared before Federal Judge Alfred Coxe, who set the trial for December 4.

## Engineers' Arbitration

Judge Walter Perry Johnson, arbitrator in the current arbitration proceedings between San Francisco hotel operators and Locals 64-64B of the International Union of Operating Engineers, has been obtaining a first-hand idea of the engineers' duties in the large hotels.

For several days Judge Johnson and representatives of the employers and the union have toured the operating plants of several hotels, interviewing the men on the job. The union is asking a wage increase, two weeks' vacation and a forty-hour week.

Representing the union, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, are William A. Speers and H. L. Kelley, business agents, and the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau. The presentation of evidence probably will occupy another week.

## Motion Picture Unions Gain Increased Wages And Forestall Strike

The threatened strike of 35,000 Hollywood technicians in the motion picture industry, which would have closed the theaters of the entire nation as well as the studios, was averted at the last minute when the producers agreed to a 10 per cent wage increase.

The agreement was reached on Saturday last the day set by the unions as the deadline.

A stipulation that the increase would remain effective only until next February 15, when the wage question would be reopened, was accepted by officers of twenty-four American Federation of Labor unions of studio craftsmen.

Should the operators be able to demonstrate their inability to pay the higher scale, they specified, the unions would surrender the 10 per cent wage increase, which is to be effective as of last October 10 and affect 23,000 studio employees, together with increases granted 12,000 other craft union members since last August 15.

Otherwise, it was agreed, the wage matter will be submitted to three arbitrators whose decision would be accepted by both the producers and the unions as final.

Union sources estimated the annual increase to studio workers would amount to about \$3,000,000.

## Western Conference of A. F. L. Organizations To Meet in Salt Lake

A Western conference of delegates from state federations of labor, city central labor unions, trades councils and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor has been called by Meyer L. Lewis, Western director of the American Federation of Labor, to meet in Salt Lake City, Utah, on December 16 and 17.

In calling the conference Lewis states that the gathering will open the way for definite plans to co-ordinate all activities throughout the entire area and formulate a program of activity embracing every unit of the American Federation of Labor in the West.

"A conference of this nature is particularly timely," said Lewis, "because of the tremendous gains in membership during the past few years, the clearly evident swing to A.F.L. by thousands of workers, and also the evident disintegration of the unsatisfactory C.I.O. procedure.

### Co-operation to Be Keynote

"Co-operation among all groups will be the keynote of the conference, with the view to co-ordinating and strengthening organizing activity. A beneficial welding process will be inaugurated embracing building trades, metal trades, printing trades, transportation and union label councils. With an interchange of ideas and the discussion of various problems of each unit, a closer understanding will be effected and a specific, well-defined program will be adopted, both to carry organization to the unorganized and to strengthen the organized.

"The conference and its aims," Lewis stated, "is in line with the desire of the Western office to be of material assistance to all American Federation of Labor affiliates, bring them together with a greater knowledge of each other's problems so that the strength of each may be given co-operatively to the other and so that the Western office can assist and co-operate wherever and whenever necessary.

### Will Effect Unity of Purpose

"The Western States Conference will mark a milestone in Western American Federation of Labor effort, as there is no doubt that it will effect a unity of purpose that will strengthen all effort and activity."

Representation at the conference will be on the basis of not more than two delegates from each unit invited to attend.

The conference will convene in the Milner Hotel, Salt Lake City, on Saturday morning, December 16, at 10 o'clock.

### WHOLESALE PRICES FOR NOVEMBER 11

During the week ended November 11 the level of wholesale commodity prices remained unchanged from the preceding week, Commissioner of Labor Statistics Lubin reported last week. "The bureau's index," Lubin said, "was 79.3 per cent of the 1926 average. Four of the ten major commodity group indexes were unchanged and six showed fractional advances. The increases range from 0.1 per cent to 0.4 per cent."

## Highlights of Meeting Of Executive Council Of State Federation

Three major matters of state and national importance were acted upon by the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor, in quarterly session here this week, in addition to various routine matters, according to an announcement by Edward D. Vandeleur, state secretary.

The council went on record in opposition to transfer of American ships to foreign registry, to any "production for use" plans, and in favor of federal control of forest resources, and made plans for protecting labor's interests at the forthcoming special session of the State Legislature.

The following telegram was sent to President Roosevelt and the United States Maritime Commission in the ship transfer matter:

### Protests Transfer of Shipping

"The executive council of the California State Federation of Labor, in regular quarterly session, went on record protesting any sanction being given by government officials for the transfer of ships to foreign registry, and believes such act to be a plain evasion of the spirit of the neutrality law."

The message also protested any plan for establishment of training schools for seamen on the grounds that there are already thousands of trained seamen out of employment.

In opposing "production for use" schemes, it was pointed out that they are detrimental to organized workers, and it was announced that the Federation will oppose any legislation intended to aid such plans.

Federal control of the nation's forests as a conservation measure is favored in behalf of the lumber workers, for whom an organizational program is under consideration.

### Additions to "We Don't Patronize" List

The council voted to add four names to the official "We Don't Patronize" list of the Federation. They include the J. G. Boswell Company, operators of a cotton processing plant at Corcoran, Kings County; the Sherwin-Williams Company of California, Oakland, paint manufacturers; Hughes Hotel, Fresno; Leon Errol, Hollywood motion picture actor, for unfair practices in the building of a home.

The revised "We Don't Patronize" list will be printed for general distribution throughout the state.

The council voted to give its moral support to the third annual Union Label and Industrial Exhibition in San Francisco in May, 1940. Other matters acted upon included:

Continuation of the fight for restoration of civil rights of Warren K. Billings; urging appointment of a West Coast member of the United

States Maritime Commission; designation of President C. J. Haggerty, Los Angeles, and Secretary Vandeleur to represent the Federation at the special session of the State Legislature; appointment of President Haggerty and Secretary Vandeleur to represent the Federation at the Western States American Federation of Labor conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, December 16 and 17, 1930; appointment of a legislative committee to consider proposed legislation, composed of President Haggerty, Secretary Vandeleur and Vice-Presidents Charles W. Real (Oakland); George W. Stokel (Sacramento), and C. T. McDonough (San Francisco).

A large number of matters of interest to various committees were reported upon by members of the council, which voted to hold its next regular meeting in Hollywood in March, 1940.

### REBEL CORK ANNUAL BALL

With Saturday, January 13, definitely set as the date, and with California Hall, Polk and Turk streets, set as the place, committees are now being formed for the handling of arrangements for the grand annual ball of the Rebel Cork Benevolent Association, according to Michael J. Riordan, president of the association. "Patrick O'Callaghan, chairman of the ball committee, has called a meeting for next Thursday, December 7, at which time the various committees will be named," explained Riordan. "We expect the ball this year to be the greatest in our history."

## Unemployment Insurance

By JOHN S. HORN, Labor Representative  
California Employment Commission

Under California's revised and liberalized Unemployment Insurance Act, benefit provisions of which go into effect on December 1, claimants of unemployment insurance will receive larger payments than heretofore.

Under the new law the minimum total benefit payable is \$160 at \$10 per week, and the maximum total, \$468 at \$18 per week. This provision affects all claims filed for unemployment insurance on and after December 1, 1939.

All previous claims, filed before December 1, will be paid out at the old rate, which was \$7 a week on a total \$5 minimum and \$15 a week on a total \$300 maximum.

Base period earnings have been changed. Under the old law workers claiming benefits were required to have earned a minimum of \$156 to be entitled to minimum benefits. Under the new law, however, this requirement is raised to a minimum of \$300—that is, a claimant must have earned \$300 in his base period to be entitled to any benefits.

For the information of workers unacquainted with the "base period," this is the "first four out of the last five calendar quarters immediately preceding the filing of a claim," or the year period in which earnings are used to compute benefits.

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## Accident Commission Adopts New Procedure For Workers' Benefit

Injured workmen whose compensation for continuing disability has been arbitrarily discontinued by insurance companies or employers in disregard of final orders of the Industrial Accident Commission will be able hereafter to get prompt consideration of their cases by the commission under a new procedure announced by its chairman, George G. Kidwell.

Simple forms will be made available on which workmen whose payments have been stopped prior to the termination of the disability can petition the commission for a certified copy of its final order. When the commission grants such a petition the workman can take his certified copy to the office of the county clerk, where a judgment will be immediately entered in favor of the employee for the amount mentioned in the findings and award and where he can then immediately obtain a writ of execution which may be levied upon any property belonging to the defendant or insurance carrier in the county in which the certified copy has been filed.

Issuance of such certified copies of final orders of the commission has always been provided for in the workmen's compensation laws and therefore, when such a certified copy is filed with the county clerk, he has no choice but to prepare a judgment and issue the necessary execution.

Heretofore the commission's practice has been to withhold the granting of certified copies in practically all cases of awards against authorized insurance carriers or self-insured employers, and to adjust disputes by negotiation with the insurance company or the employer, if he is a self-insurer, or by further hearings and supplemental orders.

The commission now finds that this has worked injustice on many injured workmen, leading either to the loss of all payments in spite of continuing disability or to long delays before payments are resumed.

Certified copies of final orders will be granted by the commission only on written petition, which must show on its face that the employee continues to be disabled and that a copy of the petition has been served on the defendant charged with the liability.

In ordering the new procedure the commission adopted a resolution agreeing that petitions for certified copies shall be granted or denied by the commission as a whole, and not by any single commissioner.

### CALIFORNIA SECOND IN FUEL USE

California was second only to New York in motor vehicle fuel consumption in 1938, with a net total of 1,571,928,000 gallons taxed. Pennsylvania was third, according to report received by the California State Automobile Association.

### Winter Home-Building Activity

On the basis of new business booked in November, Federal Housing Administrator Stewart McDonald predicts that home-building activity will continue at a high level through the winter in many parts of the country.

The present outlook, in fact, is for the best winter building season in more than ten years, he said. Even in many Northern cities, builders are throwing off the habit of winter inactivity and are planning a busy season.

An examination of applications for mortgage insurance received the first three weeks of November shows an increase of almost 20 per cent in the number of new homes to be constructed under F.H.A. inspection over the corresponding weeks a year ago.

## C.I.O. Held Responsible For Labor Dissension

The executive council of the American Federation of Labor, in its report to the annual convention of the Federation, presented incontestable evidence that the disunity in the labor movement has been promoted solely by the leadership of the C.I.O., whose chairman is John L. Lewis.

Tracing the developments of the controversy from the time when, following the 1935 A.F.L. convention, Lewis and his associates established the C.I.O. in an attempt to make effective a policy overwhelmingly defeated by the convention, the executive council brought the scheme of the C.I.O. up to date with the recent pronouncements by Lewis announcing the determination of the C.I.O. to raid the building trades unions, which are already strongly organized in the American Federation of Labor.

In regard to this proposed raid and the truth it reveals relative to the real purpose of the C.I.O., the executive council said:

"Here the chieftain of the rebel C.I.O. movement has made his position and the position of said rebel organization clear, explicit and definite. The mask of pretension that the rebel C.I.O. was formed for the purpose of carrying on a campaign of education among organized and unorganized workers and to organize the unorganized employed in the mass production industries was cast aside.

"Surely the most unsuspecting of the membership of the American Federation of Labor can see and understand that it was the purpose of the C.I.O. to carry on a relentless industrial warfare within the ranks of labor, to raid established American Federation of Labor unions and to organize those who have been associated with old, long-established unions into rebel, fighting, warring camps.

"Could anyone who believes in solidarity within the ranks of labor and who truly holds the interests of the workers above all other considerations either embark upon or pursue such a policy of division, rebellion and destruction within the ranks of organized labor?

"Those who place the social, economic and industrial interests of workers above and beyond personal consideration and ambition, those who hold the common welfare of the masses of the people as paramount, will endeavor to create solidarity, unity, harmony and accord within the ranks of labor.

"Such action represents the correct interpretation of the age-long aims and purposes of the men and women of labor.

### Difference Between A.F.L. and C.I.O.

"The people of the nation have presented to them an object lesson: On the one hand, the American Federation of Labor endeavoring to establish one solid brotherhood of labor in the United States and Canada, a movement whose strength lies in unity, an organization made invulnerable and indestructible because it was knit together by a common, united, solid bond of brotherhood and fraternity; on the other hand we behold the formation of the C.I.O., in a field where the organized labor movement as developed by the best thought, judgment and experience of the members of said labor movement, was already functioning; formed for the avowed purpose of destroying solidarity and unity, of substituting force for voluntary action, and the control of the labor movement through autocratic and dictatorial methods as a substitute for democratic control and democratic procedure.

### C.I.O. Formed by One Man to Dominate Labor

"The men and women of labor as well as all their friends may judge from the record made and from the policies which have been pursued.

"The executive council disavows any responsi-

bility whatever for the war which is being carried on within the organized labor movement and for the division, discord and hatred which prevail within the ranks of labor. To the contrary, we charge that the rebel C.I.O. was originated and formed by one man and his limited associates who were moved by a consuming ambition to control and dominate the labor and political movement of our country through the exercise of force and domination. The responsibility rests with those who formed and launched the C.I.O. out of organizations created by the American Federation of Labor and affiliated with it.

### A.F.L. Has Made Tremendous Gains

"In spite of all the opposition which the American Federation of Labor has encountered both from irreconcilable employers and the C.I.O., we have gone forward, increasing the membership of the American Federation of Labor and the wages of millions of working men and women.

"We have organized thousands of unorganized, established new international unions, created solidarity, unity and harmony within the ranks of the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor, and pushed forward a legislative program which has been of great benefit to the membership of organized labor and those dependent upon them.

"We increased our paid-up membership from 3,623,087, as reported to the Houston convention in October, 1938, to 4,006,354, as reported to this convention.

"There are 105 national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, a State Federation of Labor in each and every one of the forty-eight states of the nation and in Puerto Rico. There are 806 central bodies functioning in the cities and towns of the nation. There are 1563 directly affiliated local trade and federal labor unions established and functioning in industries over which national and international unions do not exercise jurisdiction and control.

"The value of the service rendered by the American Federation of Labor to labor and to the nation cannot be adequately appraised. As we have carried on our organizing work and our organizing campaign during the past year we shall continue to press it more vigorously and aggressively during the coming year."

### HEARINGS HERE DECEMBER 4

Senator Elbert Thomas has announced that he would hold hearings on behalf of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee in San Francisco the week of December 4.

### NEGOTIATIONS END STRIKE THREAT

A threatened strike of Pullman employees on railways in Mexico has been called off as the result of negotiations between the Pullman Company and the workers, it was announced from Mexico City.

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## Aid Pledged to I.L.O. By President Roosevelt

Continued American co-operation in the work of the International Labor Office was pledged by President Roosevelt in a letter read at the regional conference of American states held in Washington by the International Labor Organization.

"It is extremely fitting that the sister states of the Western Hemisphere who are members of the International Labor Office should assemble at this time to consider those fundamental problems of human living that concern every citizen in every nation," President Roosevelt wrote.

"This conference is another significant example of the effectiveness of an agency like the I.L.O., which, even in times like these, can serve the people of various nations without regard to boundary lines or battlefield.

"Twenty years of the I.L.O.'s existence have proven the usefulness of such an organization in time of peace. I am confident that it can and will be of service to its members, indeed to society as a whole, in time of war. Its many activities make it a focal point from which should come constant reminder in these tragic times that human civilization can flourish only under conditions of just and human relationships.

"May I express the sincere hope of the government of the United States of America that there will be no lessening of the activities of the I.L.O. during the existing world emergency.

"We pledge ourselves to continue our full part in its constructive, non-political international effort for the betterment of living standards."

### HOBBY COURSES FOR ADULTS

Listed under "hobby" courses are the free classes in wood carving for adults announced this week by Mrs. Mildred Andrews, supervisor of the W.P.A. Education Program in San Francisco. Registration is open at 1032 Vallejo street, with classes scheduled every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening from 7 to 10:30 o'clock. New classes in the Italian language, for beginners and advanced students, will start next Monday and Wednesday evenings at 2570 Greenwich street.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1939

## "Labor and the War"

An article by Paul Eliel, professor of industrial relations at Stanford University, in the "Atlantic Monthly" magazine for December, which has created considerable interest and which undoubtedly will give rise to much discussion, will be read with more than ordinary concern by representatives of both capital and labor. It is entitled "Labor and the War."

"A rise in wages but a sacrifice of many of its hard-earned rights would be the lot of labor if war should come to the United States," was the prediction of the professor, who also warns American industry that if the present European conflict continues for any length of time increases in production will result in a shortage, despite this country's millions of unemployed.

Industry could not draw entirely upon the pool of unemployed, Professor Eliel declared, because there would be extreme demands for certain types and occupations and little or no change in demand for others.

"The 1930 census figures point to the total inadequacy of apprentice training at the close of a decade of prosperity and high employment," he added, in explaining his forecast of the labor shortage.

Lacking skilled workers and the time to train apprentices, the deficiency will have to be met by "dilution" of labor—that is, the replacing of skilled men with semi-skilled labor under expert supervision, and the invention of new machine tools which will perform the most highly-skilled tasks with little supervision, he believes.

Eliel urged workers to adopt a "realistic marketing policy so far as the marketing of labor is concerned," because "rapid advances in wages which run far ahead of increases in productivity can stifle recovery."

He warned also that any attempt, if this country enters the war, to regiment labor along military lines would stifle and strangle labor patriotism, resulting in a "nation-wide force of sullen and discontented workers." In the author's opinion, military controls would jeopardize eventual victory.

Fighting a war, he predicted, will force modification or abandonment of wage and hour limitations in the Fair Labor Standards Act, might force changes in the National Labor Relations Act, and might substitute compulsory mediation for the unlimited right to strike. One of the most difficult problems, Professor Eliel said, would be to work out procedures affecting the freedom of workers to move from one industry or area to another.

"If there are to be taken from labor conditions to which it has been accustomed and for which it

has struggled and fought, labor will lose them as a patriotic necessity only if it is convinced its losses are not its employers' gains," he said.

How limitations may be placed on profits without at the same time imposing impossible limitations on the war procurement program, he concluded, is a problem which has been sharply outlined by the war in Europe as one of the most important factors in a national defense program.

## To Contest Arnold's "Illegal Strictures"

Charging that Thurman Arnold, assistant attorney general, was seeking "to pervert the use of the anti-trust laws from the prosecution of malefactors of great wealth to the prosecution of the labor movement," David L. Clendenin, national secretary of the Workers' Defense League, offered the services of the legal staff of the league to aid the Central Labor Union of Indianapolis if the Department of Justice seeks to put Arnold's "illegal strictures" into practice.

Expressing confidence that "the courts will not uphold Arnold's theses," Clendenin wrote Charley Lutz, president of the Indianapolis Central Labor Union, that the assistant attorney general's complaints "are specious and false." Arnold had addressed his statement of policy to the Indianapolis Central Labor Union.

Disputing Arnold's bald statement that the labor practices to which he objected had "no reasonable connection with legitimate objectives as wages, hours, safety, health or the right of collective bargaining," Clendenin declared that three of the activities listed "have arisen directly out of labor's efforts to protect its standards, and government prevention of such practices can only have the deleterious effect of wiping out gains in these fields which labor has won through the past half century.

Clendenin attacked Arnold's concern with internal jurisdictional disputes as coming "with ill grace at a time when the labor movement itself has taken important steps toward the solution of this unfortunate problem." He also attacked Arnold's citation of "graft and extortion" as falling under the province of the Sherman Act, declaring that these offenses could be punished by ordinary criminal laws. Clendenin asserted that "it is obvious that Arnold is less interested in the prevention of these crimes than in placing the organized labor movement under the provisions of the Sherman Act."

## An Encouraging Trend

Americans are reviving the custom of public discussion. Stanley High is quoted as saying there were 100,000 public discussion groups in the country last year. There are probably more now. Discussion of domestic and foreign issues is going on in public forums, radio debates, group gatherings, in old fashioned "town meetings."

Growth of public discussion is an encouraging trend. It shows we want to hear both sides and are intent on learning what's what. The more open discussion, the better. The propagandist, of course, isn't any too enthusiastic about full and free discussion, as he wants only one side presented. Presentation of both sides isn't any good for him. But what is not good for the propagandist is good for the people.

Public discussion, where both sides of controversial questions can be set forth, is a democratic device and makes for better democracy. Organized labor has always stood for the right of free discussion and is in full sympathy with every move to increase its popularity.

## THE DEADLIEST POISON

There are many poisons known to medicine. Most of them work quickly. But there are other kinds that work slowly, and idleness is the deadliest of them all.—Dr. Thomas Parran, Surgeon General, Public Health Service.

## Broad-Minded Union Generosity

It is interesting to note the allocation of \$225,000 for refugee relief by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

There may be those who will say that this is just the Jews giving to their fellow-religionists. But this is emphatically not the case. Note that the largest amount was given to the joint distribution committee, which is the chief distribution committee in central Europe, its efforts being divided among the refugees in Germany, Poland and Austria, as well as other points in that general area. Other allocations are for Catholic refugees from Germany, \$15,000; for Christian German refugees (Protestant), \$15,000; for Italian refugees, \$15,000; Jewish Labor Committee, \$20,000; American Red Cross, \$10,000; trade union refugees and exiles, \$10,000, and others.

This is a part of the American workers' reply to the German and Italian union-smashing programs. Such gifts would be impossible in either of these countries, mainly because the free unions have been abolished in those lands.

The I.L.G.W.U. has many and great accomplishments to its credit, but none of them is greater than this open-handed generosity to the workers who are suffering in other nations because of their allegiance to the ideals of freedom and democratic self-government.

These are not gifts made out of plenteous incomes. They come from the dimes of the needle workers, who value democracy and the institutions of a free country because they themselves have dug their own way up out of the abyss which formerly engulfed the workers in their craft. They know the value, the cost and the potentialities of democratic action. And knowing these, they want to pass them along.

## German Unionists Loyal to Ideals

The members of the former free German trade unions now living in Great Britain have issued a statement reaffirming their determination to co-operate energetically in the struggle for the destruction of national socialism.

The best and most active fighters for the maintenance of German democracy (says the declaration) belonged in pre-Hitler Germany to the free trade unions. Tens of thousands of them had to suffer for their convictions. They were killed or put in the concentration camps and persecuted by the terror of the Third Reich.

Despite this, the old fighters remained loyal to their ideals. Since 1933 the illegal groups have carried on, and are still carrying on through their underground movement the fight against national socialism. In close association with those comrades who were forced into exile, these groups maintain their struggle, their function being the reconstruction of a free Germany.

## "Man's Inhumanity to Man"

Against the background of the terror which both communists and nazis are scattering throughout Poland, Hungary's kindness to the refugees pouring across her frontier comes like a breath of good, clean air.

Near where the Polish-Slovak-Hungarian boundaries meet is the famed Uzsok Pass through the Carpathians. Through this lofty mountain gap for ages Poles and Hungarians have gone to each other's aid in time of trial. So now, in Poland's bitterest hour, the Hungarians remain true to tradition. They have not forgotten.

Thus as the long lines of hungry, beaten and hopeless soldiers and civilians stagger across the border, they are finding a haven in the land of their friends of old.

A good deed never shines so lustrously as in times like these, when man's inhumanity to man is so glaringly exemplified.

Bravo, Hungary!—Washington "Daily News."

## Facing the Facts

With PHILIP PEARL

There is one war in which America can no longer remain neutral. That is the labor war.

Those who blindly condemn both the American Federation of Labor and the C.I.O. for the initiation and continuation of the split in the labor movement are using the pretext of impartiality either to cloak their ignorance of the issues involved or to mask their enmity toward all labor.

Four years have gone by and the labor war is still on. By this time the facts have become so clear and the responsibility so certain that even those people who have no particular occasion to follow labor news closely should be able to judge between the disputants.

But if this mental exertion is too much we suggest to them—and to every citizen of the United States—merely to study the case history of one union, the International Ladies' Garment Workers, and draw their own conclusions.

Before discussing the experiences of this union let us explain here and now why the members and officers of the American Federation of Labor are so eager for the judgment of their fellow citizens. First, because we are convinced we are right and the facts will support our position. Secondly, because as long as public opinion is neutral only the side at fault can profit. Thirdly, because as long as the side at fault believes it is getting away with it it will continue in its foolhardy course and the cause of labor peace will be correspondingly damaged.

### In the Wilderness

Now for the highly interesting story of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and its peregrinations in the wilderness.

In 1935 this strong industrial union, one of the most liberal and enlightened in the family of labor, was seduced by John L. Lewis. It listened to the glowing promises of the betrayer. It sincerely believed in the high ideals enunciated by one who never intended to put them into practice. And so it joined the C.I.O. It gave the rebel organization the support of its 250,000 members and of its treasury. It gave to the C.I.O. councils the brains, the energy and the integrity of its president, David Dubinsky.

Dubinsky made it clear from the beginning that he was interested in organizing the unorganized but that he definitely was averse to making war on the American Federation of Labor. It was he who forced the hand of the C.I.O. leaders and impelled them to open the first peace negotiations with the A.F.L. in November of 1937. Dubinsky served as a member of the C.I.O. peace committee.

In that capacity Dubinsky took an active part in the negotiations which finally led to the drawing up of an agreement satisfactory to both sides. He was elated by the successful outcome of the negotiations. But his joy and elation gave way to bitter dejection when John L. Lewis only a few hours later vetoed the peace pact.

### Out of the Wilderness

That, perhaps, was the beginning of Dubinsky's disillusionment. Let it be said, let it be emphasized, that he refused to kowtow to John L. Lewis. He did not, as Sidney Hillman has done, shudder and get cold feet at the first glimpse of Lewis's frown. Instead he continued to fight for peace. He went directly to President William Green in August of 1938 and asked him whether the A.F.L. was ready to resume peace negotiations. Green agreed without hesitation. Then Dubinsky went to see Lewis. And he got his answer from Lewis: "I won't sit down to confer with the A.F.L. unless they agree in advance to my terms." Needless to say, Lewis's terms were impossible. Deliberately so. And the significance of his attitude was not lost upon Dubinsky. He

called a mass meeting of the members of his union and he told them publicly and frankly that Lewis was to blame for the war in labor.

A few months later, when Lewis showed his hand even more openly and called a convention at which he proposed to establish the C.I.O. as a permanent organization dual to the A.F.L., Dubinsky took the next step. He and his fellow officers of the I.L.G.W.U. announced that organization had withdrawn from affiliation with the C.I.O. Dubinsky explained the union intended to remain aloof from both the A.F.L. and the C.I.O. in the hope of being able to continue the role of peacemaker from a neutral position.

The latest step was taken only a few days ago after President Green accepted and Lewis again rejected an offer from the President of the United States to resume peace negotiations. The executive board of the I.L.G.W.U. met in Washington and it adopted a resolution declaring in part:

"We had hoped and we still hope that by the time our convention takes place in May, 1940, peace will be realized so that we may join a united labor movement. If peace is not accomplished by that time the question of our continued independence or affiliation with the A.F.L., to which we belonged for thirty-seven years, will be determined by our convention."

That, brothers and sisters, is tantamount to a recommendation that unless labor peace is achieved by next May the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union should return to the American Federation of Labor.

All we can say is:—"Welcome!"  
(A.F.L. Weekly News Service)

### FREE ADULT COURSES

Telegraph Hill House, 1736 Stockton street, reports a lively interest in the free adult courses being offered there this fall under the auspices of the W.P.A. Education Program. Enrollment is still open for the dressmaking and flower-making classes, which meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 4:30 o'clock. Classes in the Italian language are scheduled four afternoons each week, Monday through Thursday, with a special Monday evening class for business people.

### But Russians Don't Laugh

(Washington "Daily News")

Suppose American newspapers should blare forth with a story that Quebec was plotting an invasion to take over the whole United States as far west as the Rockies.

Well, that in effect is what the press of Russia is now saying about Finland—and without cracking a smile.

But do the Russian people to whom such a tale is fed laugh at it? Not by any means. Their credulity is, by necessity, unlimited. For in Russia there is nothing but the governmental handout—no free press, no news-gathering as we know it. Such news as is printed is all soviet propaganda; what the outside world is doing and saying is all excluded if it runs counter to the schemes of the dictatorship; promulgation of anything else means death; and therefore the preposterous story about Finland's threatened invasion is probably already being believed.

The incident is merely another example of the workings of that country to which so many now disillusioned fellow-travelers in the United States of America have been looking as the hope of the world. It is for that sort of thing that they would have exchanged the freedom of our flow of information.

One of the distinctly beneficial by-products of the present war has been the awakening in this country of those sincere liberals who turned pink in search of a better system. That awakening began when the Hitler-Stalin alliance was announced. The alarm clock has been ringing ever since.

### Comment on World Events

(I. L. N. S.)

Information reaching the Paris headquarters of the International Federation of Trade Unions shows how the nazi-controlled "Labor Front" is being used to mislead the German workers and hide from them Hitler's real aims. The Labor Front was called the "world's greatest company union" in an article in the "American Federationist," official organ of the American Federation of Labor.

At a meeting of the executive officers of the Labor Front in Berlin, Dr. Ley, the head of the front, stated that "the economic section of the war instructions given by the fuhrer for the work of the Labor Front starts with the statement that the only important thing is to consolidate the chances for victory which have been created by Hitler, and that the means or the form of organization used are of no importance."

\* \* \*

In a long statement Ley then explained (says the "I.F.T.U. Bulletin") that Italian industry during the Italo-Abyssinian war and Russian industry under Stalin provided the proofs that the National Socialist system was the best guarantee that Germany's economic aims would be obtained through the war.

The fuhrer, said Ley, "would sooner proclaim a German soviet republic than incline to the democracies. . . . The war must be carried on by absolutely Russian bolshevist methods."

Ley then went on to assert that the war-time economic reconstruction, which would be finished in a few months' time, was really a communist kind of organization, similar to the Russian, and that the word chosen by Hitler to describe it—"Volksgemeinschaft"—was only a German translation of "communism"! But Germany lacked the primary commodities, such as large colonies, the Alsatian ore and potassium deposits, etc., which were necessary if she were to organize her industry on the Russian model, and the war with the Western democracies was being carried on to obtain these supplies. From the standpoint of communist doctrine, this war was really a revolutionary war.

\* \* \*

This kind of thing is not only stated by Ley, but is being propagated up and down the country by thousands of "individual propagandists," who have recently been sent all over Germany in order to arouse the workers' enthusiasm for the war. Some workers fall into the trap, but only those who were formerly communists. The former trade unionists are not taken in.

In the Ruhr these propagandists have also been saying that Stalin has seen this to be the right viewpoint and that for this reason he is taking part in the war on Germany's side, first of all against Poland, and later on as may be required. "The Russians are convinced that Hitler is a greater revolutionary strategist than all politicians before him."

Enthusiasm must indeed be at a low ebb in Germany if the nazis are forced to resort to such talk!

### TO REPLACE GASOLINE AS FUEL

Widespread efforts to obtain a relatively satisfactory fuel to replace gasoline for motor-vehicle operation are being carried on in Great Britain, United States Vice-Consul H. B. Clark, Birmingham, reports. The three types of power with which experiments have been made are producer gas, which is manufactured from solid fuels burned in a gas producer on the vehicle; compressed illuminating gas as contained in cylinders carried on the vehicle or drawn in a trailer; and batteries in the case of electric vehicles. Illuminating gas has proved to be the most practicable of these substitute fuels, the report said.

## California's Apprenticeship Council Interests Employers and Employees

IN HIS monthly report to the Governor's Council for November George G. Kidwell, director of the State Department of Industrial Relations, devotes considerable space to the organization of the California Apprenticeship Council, composed of representatives of employers, employee organizations and the general public. Kidwell himself is administrator of the program, and John C. Beswick, chief of the Bureau of Trade and Industrial Education of the State Department of Education, is a member of the Council.

The program is a joint activity of the federal, state and city and county education authorities, which severally furnish the required funds.

Kidwell called the first meeting of the Council to order on October 14, 1939, and named Archie J. Mooney to represent him as secretary. L. A. Ireland, employer representative, was elected chairman, and George E. Ellicott, employee representative, was elected vice-chairman.

The Council adopted a program for apprentice training to develop skilled workers in California which included the following as its purpose:

### For Development of Skilled Workers

"The California Apprenticeship Council program for apprentice training to develop skilled workers establishes orderly process in the development of skilled workers where no order exists. It provides for proper regulation in the employment of apprentices but it does not make it harder to employ them, and in the end it works as a decided advantage to apprentice, journeyman, employer, trade generally, and to the public. It gives to industry, employer and employee combined, the proper control and guidance of its future well-being.

"It gives to the employer stabilization of labor within the plant and on the job, smaller labor turnover, properly trained and competent workers, improved production, better products, equalized competition, lowered costs and balanced opportunities.

"It gives to the skilled worker pride and pleasure in the handicraft of his trade, the proper

selection of those to learn his trade, safety from incompetent and cheap labor, protection from glutted labor markets, increased earning power (which is purchasing power), and security and safety in employment.

"It gives to the youth opportunities to which he is entitled, such as a fair starting wage with periodic and guaranteed increases to all who do the right thing by themselves and their employers, proper protection in and reasonable continuity of employment, competency in all the skills of the trade and the great satisfaction of becoming an upright, self-supporting member of society, with confidence in security and faith in the future.

"It brings to the public the benefits that can only come from well-organized efficiency and stabilization in industry and employment, and the full value for money expended in the employment of skilled workers."

### Details of Apprenticeship Agreements

To carry out this purpose the Council adopted suggested language and a form of agreement to set up apprenticeship labor standards for any trade in any area of the State of California, along with suggested language for apprenticeship agreements, identification cards, and a procedure defining the manner in which these labor standards can be brought into being.

For its policy the Council adopted the following:

"The California Apprenticeship Council cooperates with the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship and such other governmental agencies as are concerned with the problem of apprentice training. The possible fallacy of having forty-eight different ideas and programs to carry out one thought, which could happen if each state of the United States separately should set up individual and different basic rules and regulations for apprentice training, must be avoided.

### Qualify to Work in Any State

"We recognize the fact that we should follow such a pattern as would enable California youth, at the conclusion of an apprenticeship period, to qualify for employment in any other section of the country. Of course, allowances are made for any peculiar or particular exigency that may apply to any local craft, trade or area, but this will be considered as the exception and not the rule."

Since the meeting of the Council, and pursuant to its rules and regulations as adopted, twenty-seven existing agreements have been revamped to establish conformity with the new law, in which are involved the labor standards of 2000 young

men who are already at work in the various trades affected.

To further the work of advancing this program of apprentice training, a meeting was held in the San Francisco office of the Apprenticeship Council, at which were present the employer and employee representatives from a number of trades.

In view of the fact that through this activity for the first time in the State of California a real effort is being made to help the young people, it is very pleasant to co-operate with the ideas of Governor Olson to push this program to the full limits of its possibilities, says Kidwell.

### Wagner and LaGuardia in Appeal

### For Peace Between Warring Unions

Mayor LaGuardia of New York and Senator Robert F. Wagner, New York's senior senator, asked unity in the labor movement in addresses to the second annual convention of the New York State Industrial Union Council, C.I.O. affiliate.

Mayor LaGuardia urged speedy peace between the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations to prevent permanent impairment to the cause of labor.

"The quicker you get together, the better it will be for labor and the country at large," LaGuardia told the 800 delegates.

"The longer the division continues, the more irritations there will be created. The more irritations there are created, the more wounds there will be inflicted. The scars become more permanent, permeating through from top to bottom."

Senator Wagner appealed for settlement of the split in labor "where it has rightly asked management to settle its differences with labor—at the council table."

He told the convention that the great membership gains made by the C.I.O. and the A.F.L. "are honors enough for both."

"With increasing dismay and apprehension I have watched the breach in labor's ranks grow ever wider, watched the enemies of labor grow ever bolder, watched labor's legislative strength become weaker and weaker," he said.

### "STAY-AT-HOME TRAVELERS"

Motorists eager to display license plates from Mandalay to Manhattan will have to register their cars in those places. With numerous complaints on file from law enforcement agencies of the state, the Department of Motor Vehicles has issued a warning to "stay-at-home travelers" against the use of imitation foreign automobile license plates.

### Toward Better Democracy

(By Mrs. Florence Kerr, Asst. Commissioner, W.P.A.)

It seems to me that our pride as Americans is based not alone on what we have done; it is based on what we can do, on what we are going to do. Indeed, I should like to put it in the strongest possible terms, and say that our pride should be based on what we have got to do in America, or go down as the greatest failure in the world's history.

Within the space of a few hundred years we have taken a virgin continent and turned its prairies into a dust-bowl, destroyed its forests, polluted its rivers and filled its cities with festering slums. We have filled our factories with the most modern machinery, and have thrown ten million people out of work.

Well—is that the end of the story? No—for Europe has shown us what lies ahead in that direction. We know that out of the poverty and misery of the masses come dictatorships and war. We have already begun the long, hard climb in the other direction, toward a better democracy.

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## Method of Providing Free Hot Lunches for Needy School Children

Letters explaining the State Relief Administration's program for supplying hot lunches free of charge this year to 200,000 undernourished California school children were dispatched this week to 1500 school principals by Walter Chambers, administrator of the S.R.A.

Application blanks for putting the program in motion in individual school districts were inclosed.

The hot lunch program is carried out jointly by the S.R.A., the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, with the help of Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace and the Works Project Administration.

Fred Olmsted, recently appointed as state supervisor for the S.R.A.'s bureau of commodity distribution, is directing the program under Chambers.

### To Eliminate Red Tape

"The S.R.A. serves as the certifying and distributing agency in this program," Olmsted said, "to check on the children eligible to share in the lunches and then to deliver the foodstuff from its warehouses to the schools. County directors for the S.R.A. have been instructed to eliminate red tape in carrying out the work."

"The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation furnishes the food, which is then stored in S.R.A. warehouses awaiting distribution. Besides the federal contributions the S.R.A. receives California surpluses as donations that can be used to supplement the program."

Plans for supplementing the diets of 30,000 school children in Los Angeles under this program are in the final stages, and in San Francisco the program is well under way, with schools already participating and more ready to sign up.

The W.P.A., using relief client workers, stands ready to furnish dietitians, cooks and helpers to schools whose staffs need supplementing.

"This program is an expansion of the free lunch arrangements already being operated by school systems in California," Olmsted declared, "designed to expand the plan to include every child who does not get a balanced diet otherwise."

### Value of Commodities Used

"We intend to double the amount of surplus commodity foods given children in the past in states where the hot lunch program has been in operation. During the past year the actual wholesale value of commodities distributed for these school lunches had a cash value of about 49 cents per child per month."

"It is anticipated that during the coming year in California the Federal Surplus Commodity and S.R.A. contribution will have a cash value of from 75 cents to a dollar per child. This is without counting any commodities that may be received from other sources and without taking into consideration the value of labor contributed by the W.P.A. and the S.R.A."

Olmsted explained that S.R.A. warehouses up and down the state have on hand supplies of various basic food commodities including flour, butter, fruit, vegetables, evaporated milk and special foods rich in the vitamins growing children need.

"Foods furnished under the program will not supply complete meals in many cases," Olmsted said, "but will expand and round out existing arrangements on the part of schools."

He complimented arrangements already put into

operation by California schools, but said that resources available to them in the past have not been sufficient to fill the need.

### Trail-Blazing Already Done

"Schools have already done trail-blazing work," he said. "Now state and federal agencies are coming to their aid."

Primary requirements for the program were listed as follows:

1. All schools supported from public funds are eligible. Other schools supported by funds derived from educational, religious or charitable organizations may, at the discretion of the State Relief Administration, be determined eligible.

2. All schools making application for surplus commodities under this program must present evidence of malnutrition to the county director of the S.R.A., who will be charged with the responsibility for proper investigation and certification. The school nurse, the principal or teachers may furnish information as to the number of children who are undernourished and therefore eligible.

3. The school or sponsoring agency must operate the lunchroom on a non-profit basis, and the free surplus commodities must not be used to replace food which would otherwise be purchased.

4. The manner in which the lunches are served to the school children must not segregate them in any way which would indicate a distinction between paying and non-paying children.

Arrangements will be made between school authorities and the S.R.A. warehouse supervisors as to the time, place and method of delivery.

Olmsted emphasized that under the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation regulations all schools will be under the exclusive control and supervision of the local authorities. Subject only to the few simple rules governing certification, surplus commodities will be made available to eligible schools and it will then be up to the school authorities to see that they are properly prepared and served.

### STATE'S GASOLINE CONSUMPTION

Auto consumption of gasoline in California last year totaled 1,561,634,470 gallons.

## Wage-Hour Law Valid, Federal Judge Holds

Federal Judge William H. Holly of Chicago has upheld the validity of the Fair Labor Standards Act in approving the Wage-Hour Board's request for full records of Montgomery Ward & Co.'s Kansas City, Mo., plant.

It was the first ruling on the act obtained in a federal district court.

Holly ordered the company to produce records of wages paid employees at Kansas City. The company had refused to submit the records to examination by the board.

The court said the Fair Labor Standards Act came within the Congress' power to regulate commerce. Inspection of wage and hour records, Judge Holly held, was within the "routine jurisdiction" of the board.

Holly's opinion said the "regulation of wages and hours of labor is a proper exercise of police power."

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## State Insurance Fund Recommends Reduction Of Rates to Employers

Outstanding in this month's report of the director of the State Department of Industrial Relations is the announcement that the State Compensation Insurance Fund has recommended a reduction in workmen's compensation insurance rates of 26.8 per cent.

The proposed reduction, if ordered by the state insurance commissioner, would affect premiums paid by employers both to the State Fund and to the private insurance companies.

Inasmuch as it costs California employers a total of thirty million dollars a year to insure their employees against industrial injuries, the proposed reduction would mean a saving to employers of no less than \$8,040,000 a year in premiums paid.

The recommended reduction was arrived at by analysis of actual costs which demonstrated that the present rates are based on excessive estimates, sanctioned by previous state insurance commissioners.

If the state insurance commissioner acts on the recommendation and orders rate reductions for 1940 it will mean that in spite of the fact that benefits to injured workmen have been widened and increased by new policies of the present administration, the cost of insurance to employers will be sharply reduced.

Equally striking is the commission's report showing the immediate benefits of the new Atkinson act putting teeth into the compulsory feature of the workmen's compensation act. For the first time, failure of an employer to insure calls for a mandatory minimum penalty of \$300 fine, and as a result thousands of new policies have been written covering employers who had heretofore failed to insure their employees either through negligence or deliberate intent to gain unfair advantage over competitors. Policies received at the office of the California Inspection Rating Bureau increased by 11,340 in a single month, or nearly 100 per cent, and of these the manager of the bureau estimates that nearly half represent either new enterprises or employers who had been operating previously in violation of the law.

The vast majority of employers are co-operating splendidly and rejoice over the effectiveness of the new law, which protects them, particularly in the contracting business, from unfair competition.

Peace is always beautiful.—Walt Whitman.

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## Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY

President of Typographical Union No. 21

Harry J. Keppler, who had been a continuous member of San Francisco Typographical Union from 1906 to 1913, and who for the past fifteen years had resided in Richmond, died in that city on Tuesday, November 21. Mr. Keppler was 65 years of age at the time of his death, and is survived by a niece, Lillian Focht, of Brodhead, Wis. He was a native of Pennsylvania. Funeral services were from the chapel of Wilson & Kratzer, Richmond, on Friday, November 24. Entombment was at Sunset Mausoleum.

The "Official Bulletin," issued by Columbia (Washington) Typographical Union, states that, while there is no official confirmation, it is reliably understood that the Civil Service Commission is planning to cancel the present list and hold new examinations for compositors and linotype and monotype operators. The present list is almost ten years old and therefore practically out of date. The executive order of February 1, 1939, provides no list be maintained for over two years without being revised and brought up to date. Since September 1 the Government Printing Office has added 143 to its rolls.

P. W. Neilson of Richmond, father of Vice-President Neilson, left on Sunday for Portland, where he will reside with his daughter. The elder Neilson is 74 years of age.

Charles Houck, formerly a member of the executive committee of No. 21, and who for a number of years was a member of the "Chronicle" chapel, left Los Angeles last Saturday evening for the Union Printers' Home. Mr. Houck had been with the Los Angeles "Examiner" since leaving San Francisco around ten years ago, and had worked until a recent illness necessitated his making application for the Home. He is 75 years of age.

Charles C. Kreiger, who took over the superintendence at Carlisle's following the recent death of W. A. Sorreles, is proudly announcing the arrival of a baby girl at his home on Tuesday, November 21.

The official result of the canvass on the November 1 referendum is as follows: Proposition No. 1, for 23,434, against 27,441; No. 2, for 18,452, against 31,363; No. 3, for 18,562, against 31,351; No. 4, for 33,204, against 15,664; No. 5, for 25,294, against 24,094; No. 6, for 44,648, against 5,794. Propositions Nos. 4, 5 and 6, which were adopted, become effective on January 1, 1940.

Secretary Henry E. Clemens of Los Angeles, who had been in attendance at a meeting of the executive board of the State Federation of Labor, was a visitor at headquarters on Monday. He reports Los Angeles union's draft of the proposed new newspaper contract has gone forward to International for review, and it is expected negotiations will begin within the next few weeks.

The Chairmen's Forum and the Junior Typographical Union will hold their meetings in the offices of the union, 405 Sansome street, Thursday evening, December 7. Inasmuch as this will be the last meeting of the Forum this year, much business of importance remains to be considered. All chapel chairmen are requested to be present. A few chapels have not as yet returned skeleton rules and regulations to the executive committee for consideration. These may be turned in at the December meeting. Jubilant over the favorable manner in which their Hallowe'en Hop was received by members of the union and auxiliary,

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the Junior Union will discuss and perhaps take action on further entertainment along this line with the idea of establishing regular get-togethers of their organization with the union and auxiliary. It is important that all members of the Junior Union be present, and those few apprentices who are not members should be visited and an endeavor made to bring them out and sign them up.

George A. Griesman, retired member of No. 21, who has been ill for some time, the last four weeks of which he spent at St. Luke's Hospital, left on Monday night for the Union Printers' Home.

It is reported F. A. Stender of Knight-Counihan chapel, who has been ill for over a month, will probably have to be given hospitalization and an operation may be necessary.

An interesting letter from Ralph Moore, one of No. 21's residents at the Home, states the first cold weather of the year has arrived there. He tells us Warren E. Shepherd is on the hospital information desk, and has his worries running down any resident the doctor may want. W. A. Seymour, who fell off the lawn into a ramp leading to the basement just after his arrival at the Home, was taken to a city hospital the same day. Mr. Moore states the newly fire-proofed section is now ready for occupancy.

### Call-Bulletins—By "Hoot"

Hiram ("Chubby") Hedges figured that in order to get in the two turkey days he better put on a sub "t.f." and get in training. He is still away, probably resting up after the ordeal.

One of the young ladies in the classified ad department has a new excuse for a sprained ankle. Says she stepped on the California street cable slot and couldn't get her foot out.

John Ellett, a member of this chapel several years ago, was found dead in bed in Reno last week. Funeral was last Friday.

Business has slacked up somewhat, one of the boys being put back on the board.

See where the editor of the auxiliary's notes had to apologize for not calling some of the boys "Mr." Huh! we're lucky to be called "Hoot." How about that dance?

### Golf News—By J. W. C.

The 1939 tournament schedule of the Union Printers' Golf Association had its grand finale at the Hillview golf course in San Jose last Sunday, and those members present rang down the curtain in grand style. The writer has been chided for his going overboard on the Hillview course, and good-natured queries have been sent his way asking how much stock he owned in the layout at Hillview, etc., but after the membership had played the course and judged for themselves the unanimous opinion was that the course was everything that had been said about it, and more thrown in for good measure.

Those members who attended were treated royally by both Sonny Hutton and Ed Smith, the capable co-managers of Hillview, and all agreed that the association should return to Hillview often in 1940. The unanimous consensus of all present was that the Hillview layout was as fine as the association has ever played, and the treatment shown to the membership and their wives was without doubt the most hospitable that the members have ever run across.

Although the skies had thundered on Saturday, and the weather didn't look so good for Sunday, those who turned out were treated to a day that would make the month of June bow its head. Ideal weather it was, and the membership took advantage of every minute of it, and at the conclusion of the regular tournament a hole-in-one contest was held with twenty-one members taking part, and those members were firing away at the hole just as darkness was closing in.

The medal play tournament was won by Ralph Iusi of the championship class, with C. E. Nich-

olson of the "Examiner" giving him a good run down the stretch, followed by Ronald Cameron of the "Ex," who copped low net honors, with Verne McDill of Abbott-Brady in the runner-up spot. Class A winners were Fred Leach of Knight-Counihan and Gale Welchon of Crocker's, while Jess Conaway of the Federal led the Class B participants, followed by Percy Crebassa of Pernau-Walsh and O. R. MacDonald of Phillips & Van Orden in the runner-up spots. Bill Carlile of Borden's won the low net honors in Class B, with Roy Donovan of the "Ex" in second place. The winner in Class C was Emil Baffico, who was out for his first time, representing the Schwabacher-Frey office, and for a first time starter Emil showed the boys plenty, leading the Class C players by a good margin. John Kinst of Griffin Bros. was in the second spot, while L. L. Sheveland, now of Schwabacher's, led the boys in the net play-off, followed by Bert Simons of the Reardon & Krebs office in the place position.

Dick Hughes of the "Examiner" galloped home first in the guest flight, while George Lower and Charlie Russell finished in the second and third spots. Jim Norris of the "Mercury-Herald" office of San Jose, making his first start under the management of Nicholson, Stright & Hutton, Inc., brought joy and gladness to the hearts of his sponsors (and \$2.75 also), when he dubbed his third shot to within 5 feet  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the flag to win the hole-in-one contest. Full details will be published at a later date.

Match play winners were Iusi, Conaway, McDill and MacDonald. Iusi defeated Stright in the feature match of the day, while Jess Conaway took Herb Drescher down the line. Verne McDill put Ned DiGrazia out of the match play tournament, while O. R. MacDonald hung a lily on Chaudet to wind up the matches for the day.

Golf news will continue to appear each Friday in the Labor Clarion during the rest between tournaments. Read your Labor Clarion for Golf News.

## Women's Auxiliary No. 21

By MRS. MYRTLE L. SADLER

Members are earnestly requested to attend a special meeting of Woman's Auxiliary No. 21 on Tuesday evening, December 12, at 8 o'clock in Red Men's building, 240 Golden Gate avenue. Proposed changes in international law will be discussed and voted on. This will provide a good opportunity for non-members to turn out and get acquainted. Come—the business session will be short and you will be royally entertained.

Good news: The entertainment committee, under the able leadership of Mrs. Gladys L. Boone, has made arrangements for delicious refreshments, and a surprise is in store for all printers and mailers, who are especially invited to attend. You will have a good time renewing old friendships and again displaying that spirit of good fellowship for which you are so well noted. Let Old Man Temps just fugit along, and forget the cares of the work-a-day world.

Let's also make this a surprise party for Secretary Abbott by coming prepared to pay dues for the next quarter. That will not only be showing the proper Christmas spirit but will also greatly lighten the burden of our hard-working secretary, who has the added responsibility of distributing the Christmas stamps, which all members should use on holiday correspondence.

The regular meeting held November 21 was of unusual importance as a great amount of business was transacted. Mrs. Agnes Gilroy was elected to a position on the executive committee due to the resignation of Mrs. Agnes Dunning, who has transferred her membership to San Jose, where she is now employed. In order to correct an alleged irregularity Mrs. Margaret Bonsor was re-appointed to the by-laws committee.

Jennie Matyas, organizer and educational

director of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, was guest speaker and chose as her subject, "Industrial Peace," which clearly demonstrated the importance of collective bargaining and the assistance housewives can render by demanding union label goods and securing of union services at all times.

Four more ladies have shown their progressiveness and were cordially welcomed to membership; husbands of two personally known to the writer. Mrs. A. C. Allyn, wife of Bert Allyn of the "Examiner" chapel, well known and highly popular throughout the entire jurisdiction of the I.T.U. and whose devotion to the cause of unionism might well be a model for many to follow. Mrs. Sarah Sarkan, whose husband recently entered business under the name of S. & H. Printing Company, at 794 Mission street, specializing in job printing and stationery supplies. Ed Sarkan's reputation as a chapel chairman in this city gives assurance that the S. & H. Printing Company will be conducted under strictly union conditions. The other two new members, Mrs. Florence Reynolds, on transfer from Oakland, and Mrs. Blanche Krause, whose husband is a member of the "News" chapel, we hope to become better acquainted with through active participation in auxiliary affairs.

Mrs. Marion Smith, as usual, is spending the holiday season with her parents in Indianapolis, Ind., and will return to this city the latter part of January.

Mrs. Myrtle Thomas left Tuesday evening of this week with Mrs. Rose Forrester for Sacramento, where both ladies will be guest speakers at various meetings in the capital city.

We repeat: Don't forget the special meeting Tuesday evening, December 12. Not much business; lots of pleasure. Low scores, high scores, champions, etc., will be entirely forgotten. Come and have a good time.

## What's the War About?

By Dr. CHARLES STELZLE

The politicians may find it difficult to give a clear-cut, satisfactory statement as to why millions of men are armed and ready to slaughter those across the battle-line, but, whether or not they can express it in definite terms, the fact remains that down in their hearts every soldier in every army at war today feels that he wants more freedom—more liberty. In this respect they are all brothers.

The tragedy of it is that by engaging in war they are being deprived of the very thing which they hold most precious. How much of it they will retain when the war is ended is uncertain.

No matter who wins, the victor will still have to pay his share of the wreckage—in the terms of human life, in taxes, in the destruction of valuable property. And this enumerates merely some of the items which may be calculated upon a statistical basis. Other losses, more important than these, cannot be estimated because of their far-reaching human implications.

Whatever else might be gained through the war, nothing can compensate the masses of the people, or any group among the whole people, for the loss of personal freedom. In America we have tried to express what this means in the Bill of Rights, which was made part of the Constitution, and in certain other well-established and accepted documents and laws. In most of the other democracies throughout the world many of the same principles have been adopted.

If, as a result of the war, there should emerge a bill of rights for all nations, which would become part of international law and which would forever give freedom to all the people of the nations, great progress would be made. Such freedom and all the privileges which go with it would emancipate millions of men and women who are now victims of tyrannies and oppressions to which

they have long been subjected on account of race, creed, color or economic servitude.

All forms of tyranny exercised within the nations must be eliminated. Nothing short of this can bring permanent peace or justice. Without a universal respect for human rights there can be neither peace, nor progress nor civilization. Any other cure for national or class hatred would be futile. If such a bill of rights were accepted by governments and written into their constitutions, and enforced by constituted authorities, divisions among men would diminish, wars would cease, and the spirit of brotherhood would be established.

## "Emergency" Gas Taxes

"Emergency" gasoline taxes generally remain in force, once they come into existence.

This not only has been true of the federal 1-cent gasoline tax, the California State Automobile Association pointed out in a recent statement, but additional "emergency" gasoline taxes previously levied and due to expire this year have been extended in Minnesota, Florida, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

North Dakota this year levied a 1-cent "emergency" motor fuel tax to be effective for two years, thus bringing the state's total up to 4 cents. The attorney general of that state has ruled, however, that the new tax law is invalid.

Organized motorists have been vigilant in defeating state gasoline tax increases, although the defeat of bills to reduce fuel taxes has balanced the rejection of bills to increase the tax.

A proposed gasoline tax increase was killed in legislative committee in California and increases in motor fuel taxes were rejected by the Legislatures of Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Vermont. Bills to reduce the fuel tax failed to become law in Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Tennessee.

## Charges Against W.U.

The National Labor Relations Board has authorized the issuance of a complaint against the Western Union Telegraph Company. The complaint, which was filed by the American Communications Association, charges the company with unfair labor practices in violation of the Wagner Act. The action of the Labor Board was announced by J. T. Jennings of the regional office of the N.L.R.B.

A complete investigation of the labor policy of the Western Union, which is now being picketed by striking clerks, operators and messengers, will be made at the hearing.

The original complaint was instigated about two years ago, when John Forbes and William Dubose, Western Union Morse operators, were furloughed by the company after participating in union activity. This week's action is the result of the original complaint, to which have been added the further complaints which led up to and which have occurred during the present strike of Western Union employees.

"This investigation of Western Union's anti-union tactics," stated Douglas Ward, chairman of the A.C.A. strike committee, "will expose conditions which will make it clear to the public just why it was necessary for Western Union employees to strike against the barbaric labor policy of this anti-labor company."

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## Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

At the November meeting all reports of officers and committees were approved.

A correction: Des Moines, Ia., Mailers' Union voted 35 for to 14 against on Proposition No. 1 in I.T.U. referendum held November 1.

As decisions made in a majority of appeal cases by M.T.D.U. officers favored foremen, the most effective method of breaking foremen control of a union, as in the case of the New York union, would be to secede from the M.T.D.U. According to the New York "Mailer News," foremen were allowed to sit in on scale committee meetings and offer suggestions on proposed contracts. And also, in spite of the denials of many foremen and some of the officers of the union, President Anderson (a foreman) appointed Charles Gallagher, ex-president and former foreman of the "News," vice-president to succeed the late John Connors. Now watch the strategy to get Charlie No. 2 back in the chair. A committee from the New York "Journal" chapel headed by Maurice Hannon was appointed to confer with the executive board of the union on July 26, 1928. The following are a few questions drawn up by Maurice Hannon (referred to as "the man on the flying trapeze"): "Why did the officers of the union permit 300,000 papers to pass into the hands of another union?" "Why are delivery clerks compelled to work in the mail room, thereby reducing the number of union men employed?" "Why is it mailers have not complete control over bundling machines?" "Why was the decision of the American Federation of Labor convention, clearly defining our work, never enforced?"

Judging from printed proceedings of M.T.D.U. conventions, the letter and spirit of laws and contracts are being lived up to in New York and other unions affiliated with the M.T.D.U.

## MARYSVILLE PICKET CASE

In Marysville on Wednesday last, Herbert Resner, attorney for the nineteen men convicted in August on charges of violating the Yuba County anti-picketing ordinance, submitted the argument for the appeals on the ground that there was no evidence to support the convictions. At the same time the constitutionality of the ordinance is to be tested. The hearings will be held in the Yuba County Superior Court, Judge Warren Steel presiding.

## French Conscription

According to dispatches from Paris, France, passed by the censor, the French government has deprived millions of workers of their civil rights by providing for their conscription individually or collectively for the operation of national defense factories and commercial and industrial concerns.

The conscription rules order every conscripted worker to report at his post under the same rules as a soldier reports for service in the army. He is prohibited from leaving his job or resigning without a medical certificate pronouncing him unfit for the work to which he is ordered.

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## Charges Made Against Insurance Commission

Charges that injured workers are suffering abuses through maladministration of the State Compensation Insurance Fund and the State Industrial Accident Commission were made this week by the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor, in quarterly session here.

The charges were based on reports of a special committee authorized by the September convention of the Federation, representing more than 400,000 workers, and allege that injured workers are being ordered to treatment by "favored" doctors of a political clique manned by officials of the State Fund and Accident Commission.

The vice-presidents who signed the committee report were Charles W. Real, Alameda County; Paul E. Burg, Contra Costa County; George W. Stokel, Sacramento; Thomas P. White, San Francisco, and Ros Mannina, San Jose. The following statement was issued by the committee through Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary of the State Federation:

"We have found in many cases that injured workers have been virtually forced to quit a competent specialist in their particular case and go to favored doctors of a political clique of the

fund or commission who are unsympathetic and prejudiced toward injured workers.

"Labor does not want politicians to make guinea pigs out of injured workers, and demands that the unfair tactics now being resorted to be stopped. When politics instead of humanity controls the treatment of an injury that may result in a worker being disabled for life it is time to call a halt.

"Our investigation indicates that one way to eliminate unjust and vicious practices in this respect is to set up a panel of honest doctors competent to treat industrial accident cases, with labor and all other interested groups having a voice in the selection.

"We therefore suggest that doctors for such panels shall be selected by a committee composed of representatives of the state and county medical societies, the Universities of California and Stanford medical schools, insurance carriers, employers and labor."

Communications on the subject are being sent to Governor Olson and members of the Industrial Accident Commission.

C. J. Haggerty, Los Angeles, president of the Federation, presided at the meeting at the Hotel Empire.

### Growth of A.F.L. Lumber Union Will Result From C.I.O. Split

Growth of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union, American Federation of Labor, as a result of the open split in the ranks of the International Woodworkers of America, C.I.O., is predicted by L.S.W. officials.

The recent I.W.A. convention at Klamath Falls, Ore., developed into a series of bickering and name-calling sessions, in which strong opposition scored the policy of the machine ruled by Harold Pritchett, Canadian president of the international.

From the opening session the delegates were divided into two almost equally strong camps. Only by a narrow margin could the international officers carry out their wishes. Even the efforts of Harry Bridges to bring peace were not fully successful.

Automobiles are prohibited from carrying tires in front of radiators in California.

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## "We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it:

A. Desenfant & Co., manufacturing jewelers, 150 Post street.

American Distributing Company, Austin Studio, 833 Market.

Becker Distributing Company, B & G Sandwich Shops.

Beauty Shops at 133 Geary (except Isabelle Salon de Beaute).

Candid Camera Photo Service, 776 Clementina.

Curtis Publishing Co., publishers of "Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies Home Journal," "Country Gentleman."

Dial Radio Shop, 1955 Post.

Drake Cleaners and Dyers.

Duchess Sandwich Shop, 1438 California.

Faix Manufacturing Company, 1356 Harrison street.

F. M. Rowles' service stations at Tenth and Mission, Tenth and Bryant, Twelfth and Howard, Post and Larkin, Haight and Stanyan and San Jose and Alemany.

Forde's Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.

Golden State Bakery, 1840 Polk.

Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and workingmen's clothing.

Hastings Clothing Stores.

Howard Automobile Company.

J. K. Piggott and The Scenic View Card Co., 632 Mission.

John Breuner Company.

Kroehler Furniture Manufacturing Company.

L. C. Smith Typewriter Company, 545 Market.

MacFarlane Candy Stores.

Magazines "Time" and "Life," products of the unfair Donnelley firm.

M. R. C. Roller Bearing Company, 550 Polk.

National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.

Navlett Seed Company, 423 Market.

O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co. Products, Los Angeles.

Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.

People's Furniture Company.

Purity Springs Water Company, 2050 Kearny.

Remington-Rand Inc., 509 Market.

Riggs Optical Company, Flood Building.

Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.

Serv-Well Grocery, 595 Ellis.

Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.

Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.

Standard Oil Company.

Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.

Swift & Co.

Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.

United States Envelope Company.

W. & J. Sloane.

Woodstock Typewriter Company, 21 Second.

Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.

All non-union independent taxicabs.

Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.

Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of Hair Dressers and Cosmetologists' Union No. 148-A are unfair.

Cleaning establishments that do not display the shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union, Local No. 93, are unfair.

## Milk Wagon Drivers Gain Decent Work Hours

Approximately eight hundred members of the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union in the San Francisco area, beginning December 23, will open the day's work at 7 a. m. instead of the present 5 a. m. starting hour.

A new work agreement has been signed by representatives of the Milk Dealers' Association and Milk Wagon Drivers' Local 226, affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the American Federation of Labor.

Five months of negotiations preceded the settlement. Clarence Lindner, San Francisco publisher, served as mediator.

Union representatives in the negotiations were J. P. McLaughlin, international representative of the Teamsters' Union; Fred Wettstein, secretary of the drivers; Carl Barnes, president; Steve Gilligan, business agent, and Sam Kagel of the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau.

The employers' spokesman was Bartley Crum, San Francisco attorney.

In the down-town area, between the Embarcadero and Jones street and California and Howard streets, certain drivers will report before 7 o'clock, but not earlier than 5. Such employees will receive either \$10 monthly additional pay or work a seven-hour day. Distributors must notify the union before December 23 which proposal it has adopted.

The union and the dealers will co-operate in an educational program to accustom San Francisco housewives to the new delivery hour.

Eight years ago the starting time was the same as that just agreed upon, but the union was induced to relinquish the condition for the supposed "welfare of the industry."

### Checking Autos at State Border To Be Discontinued This Month

Motorists entering California beginning December 1 will not be confronted by the familiar Department of Motor Vehicles inspectors charged with checking automobiles and issuance of non-resident permits.

"In line with a drastic economy program necessitated by department budget reductions," said Howard R. Philbrick, director of motor vehicles, "all border checking stations must be closed November 30. An estimated saving to taxpayers of \$75,000 annually, in the department's opinion, justifies abandonment of the expensive and frequently criticized service which some tourists consider an annoyance following mandatory border inspection of automobiles by Department of Agriculture agents.

"Since tourists have five days after entering California to obtain free permits to operate their vehicles in the state, issuance of the privilege easily can be accomplished at convenience of motorists at any branch department office, California Highway Patrol office or automobile club. These agencies are available in all of California's fifty-eight counties."

Stations to be abandoned include those at Duns-muir, Truckee, Daggett, Yermo, Blythe and Yuma.

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## Ladies' Garment Workers May Return to A.F.of L.

Notice that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, with 250,000 members, may rejoin the American Federation of Labor next May if unity in the labor movement has not been achieved by then was given in Washington by the union's executive board. A public announcement by the board said:

"We had hoped and we still hope that by the time our convention takes place in May, 1940, peace will be realized so that we may join in a united labor movement."

"If peace is not accomplished by that time the question of our continued independence or affiliation with the A.F.L., to which we belonged for thirty-seven years, will be determined by our convention."

### Union Still Stresses Peace

The statement declared that the union's attitude with regard to the supreme importance of peace in American labor has undergone no change.

"We still consider labor peace as a primary factor to the well-being and the progress of American workers," it proceeded.

"Furthermore, we still are firmly of the opinion that the fundamental obstacles which stood in the way of a united labor movement when the C.I.O. was organized, namely, the recognition of industrial unionism for the mass production industries and a greater measure of democracy in union government, have largely disappeared with the substantial change of the position of the A.F.L. on these issues."

### Convention City Chosen

The garment workers' union left the Federation to affiliate with the C.I.O. and then declared its independence of the C.I.O. prior to the first annual C.I.O. convention in 1938. Since then it has maintained an independent status.

The executive board decided to hold its next general convention in New York City, for the first time since its founding, forty years ago. The convention will open May 24 with a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden. Sessions will last two weeks, President David Dubinsky said.

## Federation of Teachers

### Local 61—W.P.A. Section

The annual meeting of the State Federation of Teachers was held in Los Angeles November 24 and 25. Mary Ransburg, secretary of our section and one of our delegates to the meeting, was elected secretary of the Federation for the entire State of California. Congratulations, Mary; we know they're getting a perfect secretary!

Mary, on the resolutions committee, and Flora Kaplan, our second delegate, on the policy-forming committee, report that everything possible is being done to further the cause of adult education, admitted by all educational authorities to be one of the primary needs of a growing democracy in a world of conflicting ideologies.

Among the resolutions passed at the meeting were four submitted by our section. These provided for memorializing Congress on the subject of repealing the thirty-day lay-offs for W.P.A. teachers who have been on the program for eighteen months. Since teachers are already working for the same employer, namely the State Department of Education, for which they must work under any circumstances, the idea of spending this thirty days to seek a job "in private industry" is, for teachers, a ridiculous one.

Other resolutions advocated the removal of adult education from the relief program and placing it under civil service, with salaries commensurate to the work done. As there is already a bill brought before the past two Congresses, the Celler bill, which provides for the details of this

change, support of the bill at the next session is all that is needed.

Realizing that nothing of permanent value can be done toward stabilizing employment conditions in any profession unless there are adequate statistics available upon which to base control of supply and its allocation to localities where positions are open, the Federation requested the national organization to appoint a national committee on employment, with full authority to set about the vitally important job of making a national survey of supply and demand, salaries, requirements for certification, grades of certificates issued, manner of selecting teachers, tenure, etc.

A complete report of the work done at the annual meeting will be ready before the next meeting of our section, December 9, and we are all eagerly looking forward to hearing Mary and Flora tell us the details.

When you want to attend a free adult education class, make sure that the teacher is a member of the Federation of Teachers. Mary Ransburg, secretary, Prospect 0839; Squire Browne, chairman, Fillmore 5872, or the undersigned, Market 5328, will be happy to give you further information about who's who in the ranks of union teachers.

GRACE LEONARD, Publicity Committee.

## Cooks' Union News

By C. W. PILGRIM

Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving dinner was served in the hall at headquarters. About two hundred and fifty of our members participated in a good feed of turkey with all the trimmings. The Haywards Catering Company served the meal, and as far as the writer can learn (not having been present), everybody was well fed and pleased.

Christmas will be coming along, so you members who are going to buy your wife or best girl a box of candy for that holiday, take care you don't get it from McFarlane's. You will find a list of the companies that are fair to the Confectionery Workers' Union hanging on the blackboard in your hall. Give the list the once-over and buy your candy from a worker who wears a union button.

We have a letter in from the Western Union strikers which tells us that the bosses have been able to cut these workers off the relief rolls and also from their social insurance; therefore they are now dependent on your solidarity for their eats. This strike has been going on for the last three months. If you have some spare change you might slip it to their strike committee—address, Douglas Ward, 268 Market street, San Francisco.

Miscellaneous Union No. 110 has set up an educational committee. They will be needing help in this matter. If any union in town has any subject that is for the benefit of organized labor to present to the dishwashers, please get in touch with this committee at their hall, 83 Sixth street.

Members of Local 44, remember that the last date for nomination of officers for the coming years is the meeting of Thursday, December 7. This meeting will be in the afternoon, 2:30. To be nominated for office you must be one year in continuous good standing in the local union, present when you are nominated, and a citizen of the United States of America. Men and women have equal right to run for office.

Spend your money where you see a union card in the store window.

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## Retail Clerks Sign Big Department Store

Philadelphia Local No. 1390, Retail Clerks' International Protective Association, American Federation of Labor affiliate, has been certified by the Pennsylvania State Labor Relations Board as sole bargaining agency for 1200 employees of N. Snellenburg & Co.

Don J. Marquis, international vice-president of the union, said the contract scheduled to follow the certification would be the first union shop agreement with a large department store in the United States. It will provide for a forty-four-hour week, overtime pay, seniority, grievance machinery and arbitration. In addition there is a so-called "war clause" which permits the union to seek wage increases if the cost of living is boosted, the wage increases being subject to arbitration.

### RAILROAD CROSSING ACCIDENTS

Railroad crossings were the setting for 491 motor vehicle accidents in 1938, reports the California Highway Patrol.

### DRAKE'S BAY PARK

One of California's most historic spots—Drake's Bay, where Sir Francis Drake landed from his ship Golden Hind in 1579—has been offered the federal government as a national monument by the Marin County Board of Supervisors. Marin County purchased the fifty-three-acre site last year.

## Labor Head Backs B. & O. Plan To Modify Road's Debt Structure

A labor representative testifying in United States District Court at Baltimore, Md., approved the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad plan for modification of its bond interest and maturities.

Bert M. Jewell, president of the Railroad Employees' Department of the American Federation of Labor, said that the B. & O. plan affords a path toward improved labor conditions. The railroad is seeking approval of the plan under the Chandler act, passed by the last session of Congress.

Jewell told the court that the Railroad Employees' Department considered that the lack of flexibility in the fixed charges of many railroads has had a tendency toward irregularity of employment and that the department has been making a study of the matter for that reason.

He expressed the belief that the plan is part of the answer to the problem of employment stabilization. Its adoption, he testified, would help reduce payless furloughs, layoffs and wage reductions to which present inflexibility of fixed charges contribute.



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## Great Strike Victory Reveals That Mexico Can't Go Nazi or 'Red'

By CHESTER M. WRIGHT (I.L.N.S.)

(The first of a series of articles on the situation in Mexico as it relates to labor, the United States and the war.)

I have just returned from Mexico and I believe I have a story to tell that must interest American labor and the American people.

During my visit, which was wholly unofficial, I did more than visit Mexico City. I went south from the capital almost to the Pacific and I went east to Orizaba, Cordoba and several other communities in the great Mexican textile, tobacco and coffee area.

But first and foremost among the findings that must be revealed is the outcome of a great strike of electrical workers, covering five Mexican states, involving properties controlled by the great Electric Bond and Share Company.

The states in which this company's properties were tied up were Hidalgo, Vera Cruz, Mexico, Puebla and Tlascala.

But more important than that, and more important in every way to the American labor movement, and the American people generally, is the fact that this strike was not called by the C.M.T., the government-subsidized labor movement headed by Lombardo Toledano. It was called by the C.R.O.M., the Mexican labor movement affiliated with the Pan-American Federation of Labor, headed by Luis N. Morones.

### Complete Victory Won by Unions

The strike brought complete victory for the unions, because the demands were reasonable, the strike ranks unbreakably solid and the morale the highest.

What makes this strike and this victory, over so large an area, so remarkable in the United States is that so many in the United States have believed the C.R.O.M. a decadent organization. Too many, on a basis of either partial information or wishful thinking, have felt that the C.R.O.M. was both too conservative and too weak to stand up in the face of Cardenas' disapproval.

If this tremendous strike victory means anything it means that any idea that the C.R.O.M. is tottering is not only nonsense, but it is the complete reverse of truth.

### C.R.O.M. Spirit Akin to U. S. Labor

The C.R.O.M., as I have good reason to know, is today more vital than ever, though not yet back to the strength it enjoyed before the Calles debacle. The C.R.O.M. has been building self-supporting unions, self-reliant unions, self-directing unions. It would be impossible to find a spirit more kindred to American unions than is manifested in the C.R.O.M. organizations.

During the time of my visit Santiago Iglesias, Spanish language secretary of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, was in Mexico on an official mission. His work was magnificent. I pay him the highest tribute. However, his work was official, mine unofficial—that of a reporter. And as a reporter I believe it important to tell the story of my observations in this service.

### Present Regime Riding for Fall

It is my conviction, based on observation and based also upon discussions with some of the shrewdest observers in Mexico, men whom I have known for twenty-five years, that unless there is repression of the popular will both President Cardenas and Lombardo Toledano are riding for a fall—and if that happens it will be of tremendous importance to the entire North American continent and to the entire Pan-American relationship as well.

Today Mexico is in dire difficulties. The rate of

exchange has shot up the cost of all United States commodities. Domestic crops are such that corn is being imported from Africa! Toledano's excesses are bringing their inevitable reaction. The cost of living is, for Mexican workers, terrific.

### Toledano Leaders Come Cropper

Let me recount a personal thing: While we were in Orizaba a Toledano C.T.M. union was called into special meeting. It was attended by the union's full strength. The officers proposed that we be proclaimed enemies because of A.F.L. membership and because we were with C.R.O.M. leaders, and that a parade of opposition be held!

The C.R.O.M. unions heard about it quickly and immediately laid plans to form a double line of C.R.O.M. workers, through which we should pass in safety, if the opposition program developed. C.R.O.M. leaders confessed later that they were worried, not because of any lack of their own strength, but lest some incautious person in the C.T.M. ranks precipitate disorder. However, here is what happened in the C.T.M. meeting: As soon as the officers laid their proposal before the meeting the membership departed, silently, in groups, until only the officers were left, with their abortive scheme which they hoped would bring discomfiture to the C.R.O.M. and the Americanos.

### C.R.O.M. Safeguard Against Reds

When I say the C.R.O.M. is stronger than ever, full of energy, not to be broken or disrupted, but likely to ride on and play a deciding role in Mexican and Pan-American affairs, the evidence is there to be seen and tabulated.

In any period this would be big news. In the light of the great war, it is news of the most profound significance.

Mexico cannot go communist while the C.R.O.M. is strong—and if Mexico were to go communist—or nazi—then our southern border, so long without military defense, would immediately become a Balkan border, after which no man knows what might happen.

That is why the news of C.R.O.M. strength and revival is so important.

### C.R.O.M. Is Devoted to Democracy

In Cuernavaca, where Cardenas has a resort home, I bought a nazi swastika lapel pin. There are no swastika pins or ideas where the C.R.O.M. is strong—no swastikas and no hammer and sickle. The C.R.O.M. is built upon and devoted to democracy.

It may be that its great strike victory in the five-state area will turn out, in the light of history, as important to America as any great military victory could be. But there is still more news to come.

Employment is nature's physician and is essential to human happiness.—Claudius Galen.

# THANK YOU...

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## Ruling on Picketing Made by Supreme Court

A sweeping victory for civil liberties was won by decision of the Supreme Court holding unconstitutional ordinances of four cities which were challenged by trade unionists and other citizens on the ground they violated rights guaranteed by the Constitution. One of the cases involved the right of union pickets to distribute handbills.

Three of the statutes prohibited distribution of leaflets in the public streets and the other, that of Irvington, N. J., required a police permit for house-to-house canvassing. The handbill ordinances involved Los Angeles, Milwaukee and Worcester, Mass.

In Irvington, a member of the religious cult, Jehovah's Witnesses, was arrested for circulating religious literature from door to door without having registered with the police department.

### State Courts Reversed

In Los Angeles and Worcester individuals were apprehended for distributing announcements of meetings, and in Milwaukee nineteen union members were fined for handing out leaflets while picketing.

In another case the court held invalid an ordinance of the city of Griffin, Ga., barring distribution of handbills. Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes wrote the opinion, which reversed a Georgia Supreme Court decision declaring the law was a direct infringement of freedom of press guarantees in the fourteenth amendment.

In the civil liberties cases the supreme court of each state had upheld the ordinances as a reasonable application of municipal police power. In the handbill cases the courts found the cities had passed the laws to prevent "littering" the streets, as a sanitary measure or to diminish fire hazards.

### Only One Dissenter

The Irvington statute was upheld in New Jersey on the grounds it gave police a check on canvassers, thus helping to prevent crime.

The opinion covering the four civil liberties cases was written by Justice Roberts. Justice McReynolds, now only die-hard conservative on the court, dissented.

The court specifically stated in the Irvington case it should not be taken as "holding that commercial soliciting and canvassing may not be subjected to such regulation as the ordinance requires."

"Nor do we hold that the town may not fix reasonable hours when canvassing may be done. . . .

"We do hold, however, that the ordinance in question, as applied to petitioner's conduct, is void."